

Message Text

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21

ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6475

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 6964

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, PINT, PE

SUBJECT: POLITICAL CLIMATE OF LA MOLINA UNIVERSITY

REF: STATE 196481

1. EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF THE POLITICAL CLIMATE OF LA MOLINA UNIVERSITY IS THAT WHILE THERE MAY BE A SMALL GROUP OF EXTREME LEFTIST STUDENTS PRESENT IN THE UNIVERSITY, THEIR INFLUENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY IS NEGLIGIBLE. THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF STUDENTS (AN ESTIMATED 80-90 PERCENT) DO NOT APPEAR INTERESTED IN ANY KIND OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY. THE FACULTY HAS NOT BEEN POLITICIZED AND IS PRESENTLY FOCUSING ITS ATTENTION ON WAGE PROBLEMS, RESEARCH FUNDS, AND THE REBUILDING OF FACILITIES LOST IN THE OCTOBER 1974 EARTHQUAKE. IT IS THE EMBASSY'S OPINION THAT LA MOLINA'S STUDENTS ARE RECEIVING THEIR EDUCATION WITHOUT UNDUE POLITICAL INFLUENCE.

2. EMBASSY BASES ITS ASSESSMENT ON THE KNOWN REPUTATION OF LA MOLINA AS ONE OF PERU'S BEST AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITIES AND ON RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY. FURTHER, RECTOR OF UNIVERSITY ONLY YESTERDAY PRAISED TO AGATTACHE THE HIGHLY BENEFITIAL COOPERATIVE RELATIONS UNIVERSITY HAS THE U.S. AND EXPRESSED HOPE THEY CAN CONTINUE.
DEAN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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